

## CLAIMS

1. A method for automatically configuring an electronic device comprising:  
receiving at an electronic device a command identifying first data;  
5 automatically determining a property of the identified first data;  
automatically identifying an executable from the determined property; and  
operating on the identified first data using the identified executable.
2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the determined property of the  
10 identified data indicates a content type.
3. A method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the command contains an  
identifier of the first data.
- 15 4. A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the identifier identifies a node of a  
hierarchical nodular data structure.
5. A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the command is an exec command  
and the identifier is a URI contained within a source element, which is contained  
20 within the *exec* command.
6. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the command is received  
as XML code.
- 25 7. A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the command is a SyncML command.
8. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the identified first data is  
stored at the mobile device.
- 30 9. A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the identified first data is stored as a  
first leaf node of a hierarchical nodular data structure.
10. A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein each leaf node of the hierarchical

nodular data structure has properties and the step of determining the content type uses the properties of the first leaf node.

11. A method as claimed in claim 9 or 10, wherein each leaf node of the hierarchical nodular data structure has metadata and the step of determining the content type uses the first leaf node's metadata.

12. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the step of determining the content type uses the value of a Format element and/or the value of a Type element associated with the first data.

13. A method as claimed in any preceding claim further comprising associating a plurality of different executables with each of a plurality of different properties.

14. A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the step of automatically identifying an executable from the determined property comprises identifying the executable associated with the determined property.

15. A method as claimed in claim 13 or 14, wherein the plurality of different executables are stored in the electronic device.

16. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, further comprising, before receiving the command identifying the first data, receiving commands for creating a hierarchical nodular data structure including the first data at the electronic device.

17. A method for configuring a mobile cellular telephone comprising:  
transferring code comprising a command to a mobile cellular telephone, wherein the command identifies a first leaf node of a hierarchical nodular data structure;  
determining a property of the identified first leaf node;  
identifying an executable from the determined property; and  
operating on data stored at the identified first leaf node using the identified executable.

18. A method for configuring a plurality of mobile cellular telephones comprising: transferring re-usable code to a mobile cellular telephone wherein the code comprises:

- 5            commands for creating at the electronic device a hierarchical nodular data structure, having leaf nodes and interior nodes, that comprises first data stored at a first leaf node; and  
             a first command identifying the first leaf node;  
             determining a property of the identified first leaf node;  
10           identifying an executable from the determined property; and  
             operating on the first data stored at the first leaf node using the identified executable.

19. A mobile cellular telephone arranged for automatic configuration comprising:

- 15           means for storing first data;  
             means for receiving a command identifying the first data;  
             means for determining a property of the identified first data;  
             means for identifying an executable from the determined property; and  
             means for operating on the identified data using the identified executable.

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20. A mobile cellular telephone as claimed in claim 19, further comprising:

- means for receiving set-up code; and  
             means for interpreting the received set-up code to create a hierarchical nodular data structure, having leaf nodes and interior nodes, that comprises  
25           a first leaf node storing the first data.

21. A mobile cellular telephone as claimed in claim 20, further comprising means for interpreting a first command within the received set-up code to determine a property of the leaf node identified by the first command.

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22. A data structure for re-use in setting-up different mobile cellular telephones, comprising:

code identifying first data and specifying execution of an unidentified executable

on the first data.

23. A data structure as claimed in claim 22, wherein the code further specifies the transfer of the first data to the mobile device

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24. A data structure for re-use in setting-up different electronic devices, comprising:

10        commands for creating at an electronic device a hierarchical nodular data structure, having leaf nodes and interior nodes, that comprises first data stored at a first leaf node; and  
      a first command identifying the first leaf node that specifies execution of an unidentified executable on the first data stored at the first node.

15        25. A server for storing and transmitting the data structure as claimed in claim 22, 23 or 24.

26. A system for creating a data structure for re-use in setting-up different electronic devices, comprising:  
20        means for associating each one of a plurality of user friendly commands with different code portions, each of which includes one or more commands.

27. A system as claimed in claim 26, wherein a first user friendly command is associated with XML code comprising only a SyncML Add command .

25        28. A system as claimed in claim 26 or 27, wherein a second user friendly command is associated with XML code comprising a SyncML Add command followed by a SyncML Exec command.

30        29. A system as claimed in claim 26, 27 or 28, wherein a third user friendly command is associated with XML code comprising a SyncML Add command followed by a SyncML exec command followed by SyncML Delete command.

30. A method for automatically configuring an electronic device substantially as

hereinbefore described with reference to and/or as shown in the accompanying Figs.